

REMARKS

Claims 2, 3, 5-23, 25 and 26 are currently pending in the application. Claim 25 is herein amended to correct a minor typographical error. No new matter is added. In light of the following remarks and aforementioned amendments, favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

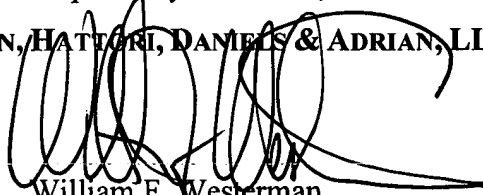
In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that this case is in condition for allowance and allowance is respectfully solicited.

If any points remain at issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the local exchange number listed below.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. F. Westerman', is written over the printed name and firm name.

William F. Westerman

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